

# Citizens for Ponce Inlet NEWSLETTER



*Improving the Quality of Life in the Town of Ponce Inlet*



**Ponce Inlet is and will be a residential haven for those persons who value nature, quiet, and privacy.**

## Citizens for Ponce Inlet Wine Tasting



**November 7th at 5:30PM**

Ponce Inlet Community Center

Tickets can be purchased online at [www.c4pi.org](http://www.c4pi.org) or at the Community Center. See pages 4 & 5.

## Inside this issue



### Marine Science Center Bird Hospital

A young red-bellied woodpecker's rehabilitation journey back to the wild.....Pg 33



### Garden Club Arts, Crafts & Plants Sale

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The Ponce Inlet Veterans Memorial Association will be hosting their Veterans Day Ceremony.....Pg 46



To view our quarterly newsletter, visit [www.C4Pi.org/newsletter](http://www.C4Pi.org/newsletter)

Become a C4Pi Member, it's FREE to join! [www.C4Pi.org/join](http://www.C4Pi.org/join)

# The Town of PONCE INLET

Est. 1963

*“Joy of the Land and Sea”*



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Citizens For  
PONCE INLET

# Wine Tasting Fundraiser

November 7th, 2025

5:30PM

Ponce Inlet  
Community Center  
Tickets \$50

[www.c4pi.org](http://www.c4pi.org)



*RPS Catering*

*Reliable and Personalized Services*

# Join Us for a Delightful Wine Tasting Event!

We enthusiastically invite you to an evening of fine wines expertly paired with delicious hors d'oeuvres crafted by RPS Catering. Join friends and neighbors to enjoy an exceptional evening and celebrate our vibrant community at this delightful event.

## Event Details:

**Date:** Friday, November 7, 2025

**Time:** 5:30 PM

**Location:** Ponce Inlet Community Center



## Secure Your Tickets

### Step 1: Register For the Event

To secure your spot for this exciting fundraiser, please register for the event using this link:

[Click here to Register](#)

### Step 2: Purchase Your Ticket(s)

Next, you can purchase tickets in one of two ways:

**In-Person:** Payment by check or cash will be accepted at the Ponce Inlet Community Center, Monday to Friday, from 9:00 AM to noon.

**Or Online Using This Buy Now Button**

[Buy Now](#) Authorize.Net Simple Checkout

# A Moment with the Mayor

It is a privilege to serve in a leadership role, as it allows me to help strengthen our Town's ability to address current challenges and seize future opportunities.

I am honored to serve as Chair of the Florida League of Cities' Utilities, Natural Resources, and Public Works Policy Committee for the 2026 Florida legislative session. Since 1922, the League has represented over 400 municipalities, advocating for home rule and policies that empower local governments to better serve their residents. Through advocacy, collaboration, and leadership, the League ensures municipal perspectives shape state-level decisions.



Lois Paritsky



The Utilities, Natural Resources, and Public Works Committee (UNPW) plays a critical role in developing policy platforms that address key issues such as coastal management, environmental permitting, water quality, and hazardous waste. Consisting of elected officials and professionals from municipalities of all sizes, the committee shapes policy, analyzes legislative trends, and advocates effectively in Tallahassee.

I have served on the UNPW Committee since 2016, progressing from member to Vice-Chair, and now to Chair. These roles have allowed me to engage in vital discussions on diverse policy challenges.

Two pressing issues consistently stand out and will be priorities in the upcoming session: regulating per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and advancing the One Water framework.

PFAS, often called “forever chemicals,” are man-made compounds that contaminate public water supplies and raise significant public health and environmental concerns. These persistent chemicals, linked to health risks like cancer, thyroid disorders, and reproductive issues, remain in groundwater, food, and consumer products despite some being phased out. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set strict, legally enforceable PFAS limits to be met by 2031, requiring costly advanced treatment technologies and infrastructure upgrades. The UNPW Committee’s discussions aim to balance technical feasibility, fiscal responsibility, and legal accountability in addressing PFAS.

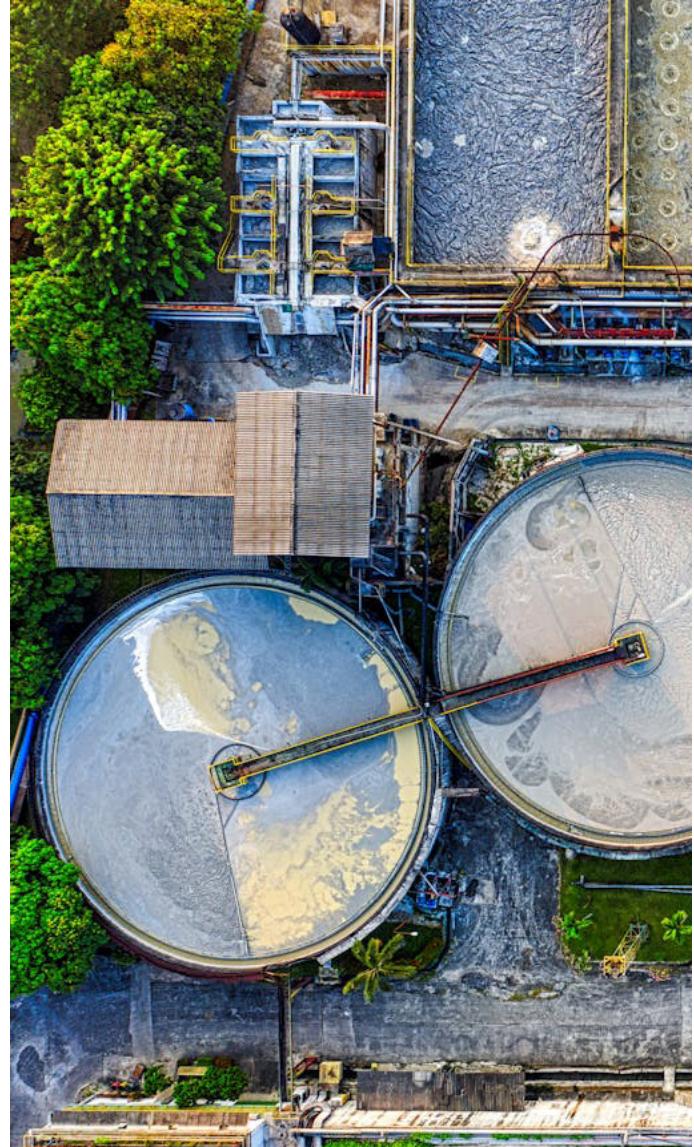


Equally important is our commitment to the One Water approach, an integrated strategy recognizing the interconnectedness of drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater systems. Expanding the use of reclaimed and recycled water is essential for reducing stress on freshwater supplies, protecting ecosystems, and building resilience against sea-level rise and recurring droughts.

As Chair, I am dedicated to leading our committee in championing solutions that promote sustainable growth, environmental stewardship, and resilient infrastructure. These efforts reinforce the critical role local governments play in building a healthier, safer, and more prosperous Florida for all.



Lois A. Paritsky  
Mayor, Town of Ponce Inlet  
(386) 310-4320  
[lparitsky@ponce-inlet.org](mailto:lparitsky@ponce-inlet.org)



# COUNTY CORNER

Hello once again, everyone.

This is your Volusia County Councilman, Matt Reinhart, with your next installment of our quarterly newsletter.

## Derelict Vessels

Volusia County is now coordinating the removal of derelict vessels in the St. Johns River basin. Three local companies were selected to participate in the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) grant program that funds these removals.

## Post-Storm Debris Removal Agreement

The County is entering into a proposed interlocal agreement with the Town of Ponce Inlet that transfers responsibility for post-storm debris removal along the portion of County Road 4075/S. Atlantic Avenue within the town's municipal limits. This arrangement will allow for a more coordinated cleanup effort and is in the best interest of the public. The agreement establishes the framework for cooperation between the Town of Ponce Inlet and Volusia County in the removal of disaster debris on this county road.

## Stormwater Protections

Volusia County is vulnerable to a wide range of natural hazards, including hurricanes, flooding, tornadoes, and wildfires. These threats can endanger lives, damage property, and disrupt the economy and quality of life for residents and visitors alike.

To address these risks, the County has adopted a **Multi-Jurisdictional Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS)**. This ongoing plan brings together local governments and partners to incorporate hazard mitigation



into day-to-day operations. The LMS sets forth goals and objectives to protect people and property, recommending both micro-level solutions—such as elevation, retrofitting, and acquisitions—and macro-level strategies like growth policies, natural resource protections, and public outreach. The plan is designed as a living document, with regular updates and evaluations to ensure continued effectiveness.

## Beach Restoration Project

The sand restoration project at "Rattlesnake Island" is moving forward with full funding from the Florida Inland Navigational District (FIND). Volusia County's costs are limited to design, permitting, transportation, and placement of the sand onto county beaches—ensuring much-needed shoreline improvements at minimal county expense.



## Charter Review Committee (CRC) Selections

The County Council has appointed members to serve on the Charter Review Committee, which meets at least once every 10 years as required by the Volusia County Charter. Beginning with its first meeting on **September 3, 2025**, the CRC will have one year to prepare recommendations for potential charter amendments. The County Council will then hold no fewer than three public hearings before placing any proposed amendments on the ballot at the next general election.

## Emergency Operations Expansion Funding

Senator Tom Wright presented Volusia County with \$400,000 in state funds to support expansion of the Emergency Operations Center. This funding is part of a larger \$2.5 million project that will add approximately 5,000 square feet of space. The expansion will increase capacity for emergency personnel, improve coordination, and provide flexible space for training and planning outside of emergency activations.

## Beach Safety

Following a sharp increase in water rescues caused by rip currents, the Volusia County Coastal Division has expanded public safety messaging. Beach Safety officials strongly urge visitors to swim near lifeguard towers, follow posted warning flags, and avoid venturing into rough surf. Conditions are being closely monitored, and safety messaging will continue to adapt to keep the public informed.

## Volusia County Airport

Air service at Daytona Beach International Airport continues to expand.

**JetBlue** will resume service on **December 4, 2025**, offering two daily nonstop flights to **New York (JFK)** and **Boston (BOS)**.

**Breeze Airways** recently began new nonstop service to **Canton/Akron (CAK)** on **September 3, 2025**, strengthening connections to the Cleveland metro area.



These additional routes will enhance business and leisure travel, support tourism, and offer residents more convenient options for visiting loved ones.

## 2025-26 Volusia County Budget

In October, the County Council will adopt the millage rate for the 2025-26 annual budget. The current proposal is to move forward with the rollback rate.



Matt Reinhart  
Volusia County Council  
District 2  
[mreinhart@volusia.org](mailto:mreinhart@volusia.org)

# THE TALK OF TALLAHASSEE



A Message from Representative Chase Tramont

## To the People of Ponce Inlet,

As we move through this year's hurricane season, which does not officially end until November 30th, I want to take a moment to both commend and encourage you. The people of Ponce Inlet have time and again demonstrated remarkable strength and resilience in the face of storms. Your unity and determination are what make this community so special, but as Floridians we know preparedness is not an option; it is a necessity.

Hurricane season is unpredictable, and it only takes one storm to leave a lasting impact. That is why we must remain vigilant, ensuring that our families, our homes, and our town are ready for whatever may come. Each of us has a role to play, and it requires all hands on deck.

To stay informed, I strongly encourage you to download the Volusia County Emergency Management app, which provides real-time updates and resources to help you prepare and respond when severe weather threatens. In addition, the Volusia County Sheriff's Office and the Town of Ponce Inlet maintain valuable resources and emergency information that can guide you through every stage of a storm.

Together, through preparation, vigilance, and neighborly care, we can weather any challenge. Let us remain united in that spirit as we continue through this season.

May God bless you, your families, and our great community of Ponce Inlet.

With resolve,  
Representative Chase Tramont  
Florida House District 30  
(386) 944-1010

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rep. Chase Tramont". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a slightly larger, more formal name at the top and a more personal, handwritten name below it.





## A Message from Senator Tom A. Wright

The summer months have been filled with meaningful work, recognition, and preparation for the upcoming Legislative Session. Recently, I had the privilege of joining the Florida Association of State Troopers (FAST) for their annual gathering. It was an honor to speak with them about Senate Bill 138, “The Trenton Stewart Act,” which strengthened penalties for repeat offenders of DUI and boating under the influence. For this work, I was deeply humbled to be presented with FAST’s Senator of the Year Award. This recognition belongs not just to me, but to all who worked tirelessly to ensure safer roads and waterways for our communities.

Over the past few months, I have also had the opportunity to take part in several important community events and check presentations throughout the district. These occasions allow me to see firsthand the impact of state funding and legislation while also recognizing the dedicated work of our local leaders, first responders, educators, and veterans. Each event is a reminder of how vital these partnerships are in building stronger, safer, and more resilient communities across Volusia and Brevard counties.

Looking ahead, I want to encourage residents to participate in the Volusia County Legislative Delegation meeting on Wednesday, October 29, that will be held in the Council Chambers at the Deland City Hall. This annual event is an important opportunity for citizens, local governments, and community organizations to present their legislative priorities directly to the delegation. Your input plays a vital role in shaping the policies we bring forward in Tallahassee, and I strongly encourage community members to attend and have their voices heard. If you are interested in signing up to speak or have any questions, please call my Legislative Aide Chris Morris, at 386-304-7630 or email him at [morris.christopher@flsenate.gov](mailto:morris.christopher@flsenate.gov).

As we turn toward the upcoming Legislative Session, Florida’s Senate and House will soon begin our series of committee weeks in Tallahassee. These weeks, held prior to the start of the Legislative Session, are essential for reviewing proposed legislation, holding hearings, and preparing bills to be considered when we officially gavel in. I will continue to focus on legislation that prioritizes public safety, supports our veterans and first responders, strengthens workforce education, and addresses the unique needs of our coastal communities.

As always, it is my honor to serve as your Senator for District 8. Please never hesitate to reach out to my office with any questions, concerns, or ideas. Your input helps guide the work I do every day on your behalf. My office can be reached at 386-304-7630, or email me at [wright.tom@flsenate.gov](mailto:wright.tom@flsenate.gov).

Until next time—stay safe, stay engaged, and stay informed.

Sincerely,  
Senator Tom A. Wright  
District 08

# WORD FROM WASHINGTON



## U.S. Senator Rick Scott:

For many families, owning a home is part of the American dream and a sign of stability for their families. I talk to Florida families constantly who tell me how much they love living that dream in the great state of Florida, but that the cost of their homeowners insurance, while essential, can take a serious toll on their family's budget.

I grew up in a family that struggled to make ends meet, with my mom working hard to keep a roof over our heads, and it is heartbreaking to hear families going through that same struggle, as high costs are making the dream of homeownership unaffordable.

In the United States Senate, I'm working to lower costs for families by establishing an above-the-line federal tax deduction for homeowners insurance premiums. My Homeowners Premium Tax Reduction Act is a great opportunity to directly ease this burden and give families more breathing room in their budgets. This bill will provide direct relief for families in Florida and across the nation with a deduction of up to \$10,000 in homeowners insurance premiums paid on their primary residence. I'm working hard to get this bill passed and signed into law.

I am committed to making Washington work better for Florida families and ensuring they have every opportunity to live their American Dream, and I am glad to have a partner in President Trump in the White House working hard to put American families first.

(202) 224-5274

[www.rickscott.senate.gov](http://www.rickscott.senate.gov)



# From the Town Manager, Mike Disher

## The Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget

On September 18, 2025, the Town Council unanimously approved the fiscal year 2025/2026 budget, effective October 1, 2025. This budget ensures the Town maintains or enhances current service levels for residents, continues essential maintenance and drainage improvements following recent hurricanes, and secures adequate operating reserves. The budget reflects months of dedicated work, incorporating recommendations from the Essential Services Advisory Board (ESAB) and Cultural Services Board, guidance from the Town Council, and valuable public input. The process included ten public participation opportunities across board meetings, workshops, and hearings over nine months. The budget prioritizes key Town Council initiatives, including ongoing stormwater drainage enhancements, additional Public Works staff, a feasibility study for fire station upgrades or replacement, resurfacing the Pollard Park tennis court, reconstructing Public Works Building "B," and repairing park facilities.



You can find information about the FY 2025/2026 budget details at [www.ponce-inlet.org/534/5223/FY-2526-Budget?activeLiveTab=widgets](http://www.ponce-inlet.org/534/5223/FY-2526-Budget?activeLiveTab=widgets), which includes meeting agendas, minutes, staff reports, presentations, public Q&A, and both the proposed and final budgets.

The FY 2026/2027 budget process will begin soon, with public participation opportunities at ESAB and Cultural Services Board meetings in January, February, and March. In March, ESAB will review and prioritize budget proposals for police, fire, and public works departments. Public input is welcome and remains vital to balancing operational needs, service levels, and quality of life.



## Stormwater Update

King tides and heavy rains are common this time of year, and some areas of Town may experience localized flooding and standing water. During particularly heavy rain, we sometimes receive calls from residents concerned about flooding in their yards. Although their homes are usually unaffected, they worry about the standing water and ask what the Town can do to help. While the Town maintains and improves the stormwater system as a whole, residents can also take steps to protect their own property, as outlined below.

## The Stormwater Drainage System

The Town's stormwater infrastructure includes approximately 16,200 linear feet of pipe, swales along major roads, and three retention ponds. Some pipes drain directly to the Halifax River, while others are closed exfiltration systems that temporarily store water until it can soak into the ground. This network is supplemented by public drainage easements on private lots, as well as multiple privately owned retention ponds, pipes, and easements in gated neighborhoods. Swales and depressions on individual lots provide additional storage capacity.



Most residential subdivisions in Ponce Inlet were built before modern stormwater regulations and were designed to handle only limited rainfall. Early systems typically relied on drainage easements on private property and exfiltration pipes, rather than HOA-maintained retention ponds. These systems function well under normal conditions but can be temporarily overwhelmed during heavy downpours and storms. When soils are saturated, as they were after consecutive days of rain this past September, exfiltration pipes reach capacity and cannot absorb additional water. Similarly, pipes draining directly to the Halifax River can fail during extreme high tides when river levels block outflow. In such cases, there is simply nowhere for the water to go until tides recede and the ground has had a chance to dry. Unfortunately, there are no quick fixes—

only steady, ongoing improvements to the system over time.

## Stormwater Improvements

Since Hurricane Ian in 2022, the Town has invested more than \$1,000,000 in stormwater improvements. Projects have included cleaning the entire storm-pipe system, purchasing larger pumps, removing 1–2 feet of muck from retention ponds, restoring roadside swales, acquiring land for new ponds, installing one-way storm-drain valves on low-lying streets, and preparing plans for future projects. Work will continue in FY 25/26 with installation of a new exfiltration system on Old Carriage Road, expansion of the stormwater pond at Beach Street, and purchase of low-lying undeveloped property for future pond expansion. The Town is also obtaining cost estimates for the improvements recommended in the 2024 Watershed Master Plan so they can be scheduled and funded. Town staff regularly seeks grants and legislative appropriations to offset costs for taxpayers.

## Preparation

Town staff closely monitors weather forecasts and coordinates storm response with neighboring communities. The Public Works Department prepares for storm events by pumping out the three Town-owned retention ponds and providing sandbags to residents. Pumping ponds ahead of time increases capacity and helps upstream properties drain more quickly. This year, the department has also offered sandbags one weekend each month during “Sandbag Saturdays.”

## What You Can Do

No one can stop water from flowing downhill, prevent high tides, or make saturated ground hold more water. If your property is at the bottom of a slope, in a flood zone, or contains a drainage

easement, you *will* experience standing water in your yard at some point. However, you can take steps to protect your home before a storm or heavy rainfall:

- **Sandbags:** Pick up sandbags ahead of time from Public Works. The next “Sandbag Saturday” will be October 18, 8 a.m.–12 p.m. at the Public Works facility, 4875 S. Peninsula Drive.
- **Floodproofing:** Talk to Hank Baker, the Town’s Chief Building Official and Floodplain Manager, about options for your home and property.
- **Swales:** Many properties developed since 1990 include swales and depressions designed to hold rainwater and keep it away from homes. Do not fill them in—they are required by the Town’s stormwater regulations.
- **Flood insurance:** Residents in a flood zone receive a 25% discount on flood insurance through the Town’s Class 5 rating in the National Flood Insurance Program’s Community Rating System. Even outside a flood zone, you are eligible for a 10% discount.
- **Storm drains:** Keep drains clear. Don’t pile yard waste near them, and if safe, remove leaves or debris from grates. Remind your landscaper or tree service to do the same.
- **Sprinklers:** Turn off sprinkler systems before a storm to reduce runoff, since saturated soil cannot absorb extra runoff.

Taking these steps, along with the Town’s ongoing improvements, helps us all better manage stormwater during heavy rains.

## Service Line Warranty Program

In September 2025, residents received letters from Service Line Warranties of America (SLWA), also known as HomeServ, offering optional warranties for utility leaks on private property, typically not covered by homeowners’ insurance or the Town. The Town Council discussed this program in December 2024 and approved it in May 2025, allowing SLWA to use the

Town logo for informational purposes only. SLWA operates independently, with no affiliation or endorsement from the Town or its utilities department. Your decision to purchase or decline coverage will not affect water service terms, price, or availability. This is an optional service. For details or to enroll, contact SLWA at 866-922-9006 or visit [www.slwfa.com](http://www.slwfa.com).

## Town Holiday Closings

Town offices will close on:

- November 11, 2025, for Veterans Day
- November 27–28, 2025, for Thanksgiving
- December 24–25, 2025, for Christmas
- January 1, 2026, for New Year’s Day

## Stay Informed About Your Town’s Activities

The Town actively informs and engages residents through various channels. We host meet-and-greet events, Town Hall meetings, and share extensive information on our website, [www.ponce-inlet.org](http://www.ponce-inlet.org), and social media platforms. For specific inquiries, contact us directly, and we’ll gladly assist.

Visit [www.ponce-inlet.org](http://www.ponce-inlet.org) to access public meeting notices, minutes, general information, and updates on current or upcoming projects. Sign up for our “Notify Me” email list on the website if you haven’t already. If you use Facebook, be sure to “like” the Town of Ponce Inlet’s official government page to receive regular updates in your newsfeed. Follow us on Nextdoor and Instagram for additional updates. Also, check the back of your utility bill for special announcements and key information.

For emergency alerts, enroll in the Town’s Code Red phone notification system by texting “PonceAlerts” to 99411 or calling the fire department at 386-322-6720. We use this system sparingly, reserving it for critical emergency notifications to avoid unnecessary calls.

# From Police Chief Jeff Glazier



The Ponce Inlet Police Department operates 24/7 with 13 full-time officers, three part-time officers, and two civilian administrative staff. There are always a minimum of two officers patrolling the Town at all times. The Police Department has just hired one new officer and has one additional vacancy to fill. The Police Department only hires officers with previous law enforcement experience and exceptional records.

## Crime Prevention for the Upcoming Holidays

Even in our quiet and close-knit community, it's important to stay vigilant and proactive about safety. Here are some simple steps every resident can take to help prevent crime and keep you safe.

- Always be aware of your surroundings.
- If you walk or jog or bike while listening to music, turn down the volume so you can hear someone approaching.
- Always lock your home doors and windows.

- Always lock your vehicle and never leave valuables, especially guns, in an unoccupied vehicle.
- If you are going away for an extended period, fill out a house watch form with the Ponce Inlet Police Department.
- Do not leave Amazon or other delivered packages in plain view. Tell a neighbor to hold your packages until you arrive home, or have them shipped to a secure business address.
- If you see something suspicious, call 911 so a Ponce Inlet Police Officer can respond quickly.

The average response time of a Ponce Inlet Police Officer for all calls is under four minutes, and emergency calls are even faster.

- Emergencies: Call 911.
- Non-Emergencies: Call 386-248-7777.

## Soliciting in Ponce Inlet

Any solicitor, canvasser, peddler, or any individual engaged in any promotional or commercial activity must hold a valid solicitation permit issued by the Town of Ponce Inlet.

Allowable solicitation hours are Mon-Sat, 9am-6pm. No solicitations shall take place on Sunday. Always ask to see a Town permit from any solicitor selling their services. If they do not have a permit, call the non-emergency number 386-248-7777, and a Ponce Inlet Police Officer will arrive and investigate to see if the solicitor is legitimate.

Permits are not required in connection with solicitation, sales, or similar activity conducted by charitable or non-profit organizations. Permits are also not required for distribution of information of a political nature.

## Women's Self-Defense Class

This November, be on the lookout for the next Women's Self-Defense Class at the Ponce Inlet Community Center. This is a safe and fun way to gain confidence and learn the basics of self-defense from Ponce Inlet Police instructors. Participants practice in a controlled environment at their own pace. Space is limited, and spots fill up quickly.



## Citizens Watch

The Police Department currently has one (1) vacancy to fill. The Police Department only hires officers with previous law enforcement experience and exceptional records. For more information, go to: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/ponce-inlet/>



# From Public Safety Director and Fire Chief Dan Scales



## PIFR Training Stronger Than Ever—And Now an ISO Class 2

Ponce Inlet Fire Rescue (PIFR) is proud to share that our Insurance Services Office (ISO) Public Protection Classification (PPC) has improved from a Class 3 to a Class 2. ISO's PPC rating system is a national benchmark that evaluates how well a community is protected by its fire department. This is a big step forward for both our department and our community. The ISO PPC rating is a national standard that measures how well a community is protected by its fire department. Achieving a Class 2 places PIFR among the top tier (about 6%) of fire departments nationwide.

What this means for our community:

**Stronger Service**— Our rating confirms that our training, equipment, and operations make us more effective and reliable in responding to emergencies.

**Positive Community Impact**— Insurance companies often use PPC ratings when setting property insurance premiums. Our improved rating may help lower insurance costs for property owners while ensuring strong protection for our residents.

Key improvements came from adding our Quint fire apparatus, which enhanced firefighting capabilities, and ensuring consistent daily staffing. Equally important, we could not have reached this milestone without the steadfast support of our Town Council and residents, whose dedication to public safety is truly invaluable.

This accomplishment is a reflection of both the hard work of our Fire Rescue team and the trust and backing of our community.



## Training Spotlight: A Snapshot of Our Monthly Readiness

Our ISO improvement is directly tied to rigorous, ongoing training. Here's a snapshot from July's training cycle—one example of how we keep skills sharp throughout the year:

### Fireground Operations

- Conducted forcible entry and primary search drills at the PIFR training facility.
- Secured a hydrant water supply and deployed a 3-inch line with a Y-connector feeding two 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch attack lines.

## Aerial & Apparatus

- Hands-on aerial operations: setup, stabilization, and safe ladder work.
- Driver/Operator training with a focus on area familiarization and route planning.



## Hazardous Materials

- HAZWOPER refresher covering scene size-up, zones, and decontamination.
- Multi-gas detector review: start-up, bump test, alarm thresholds, and interpretation.

## EMS Readiness

- Multi-casualty incident refresher: triage, treatment, and transport coordination.
- Completed assigned Vector Solutions EMS modules to maintain competencies.



## Pre-Incident Planning

- Marine Science Center walk-through for emergency familiarization, including access points, suppression features, and life-safety considerations.



In 2026, we'll continue this momentum with monthly drills, advanced EMS coursework, officer development, and multi-agency exercises. Our goal is simple: protect life and property with professionalism, skill, and care—every call, every time. Questions? Contact Dan Scales, Public Safety Director/Fire Chief, at [dscales@ponce-inlet.org](mailto:dscales@ponce-inlet.org).

# From Planning and Development Director Darren Lear



## Resiliency Update

On June 19, 2025, the Town began the next step in its resiliency planning efforts by selecting the consulting firm of Brizaga, Inc. to prepare an Adaptation Plan (AP). The AP is a follow-up to the Town's 2022 Vulnerability Assessment (VA) and the 2024 Watershed Master Plan (WMP). The AP is intended to provide the Town with specific adaptation strategies for the most vulnerable areas to strengthen resilience to climate-related hazards. The AP is being funded through a \$50,000 grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), through the Resilient Florida grant program. Creation of the AP is one of the Town Council's goals for the Planning Division.

To put it simply, the VA showed what's at risk—identifying neighborhoods, roads, and public facilities most likely to be affected by future sea level rise. The WMP looked at how water moves through the Town, laying the groundwork for better managing stormwater, improving water flow, and reducing flooding.

The AP will determine how to address these

risks by connecting them to implementable solutions and creating Adaptation Action Areas to prioritize investment. The plan will feature high-level conceptual designs, planning-level engineering budgets for priority projects, and identification of potential funding sources. Ultimately, it will create a roadmap to guide investments and increase community resilience over the next 10–30 years.

Through the efforts put forth in these planning efforts, the Town is taking the necessary steps toward greater resilience and preparedness. For more information on the Town's resiliency efforts, visit [www.ponce-inlet.org/518/Resilient-Ponce-Inlet](http://www.ponce-inlet.org/518/Resilient-Ponce-Inlet)

## Online Permitting

The Ponce Inlet Building Division is committed to making the permitting process faster, easier, and more convenient. Earlier this year, the Division began offering online permit application submittals for the following six permit types:

- Roofs
- Openings
- A/C Change-Outs
- Meter Change-Outs
- Water Heater Change-Outs
- Fences/Walls

We are pleased to announce that starting October 6th, customers will be able to apply online for three additional permit types for both residential and non-residential structures:

- Hurricane Shutters
- Pavers, driveways, etc.
- Decks/patios

For more information, please visit <https://www.ponce-inlet.org/148/Building-Permitting>

## Find your Flood Information

The Town of Ponce Inlet is improving how residents, builders, and developers access flood information with the launch of a new online flood zone map at <https://ponceinletfl.withforerunner.com>. The map, powered by Forerunner, serves as a centralized hub for critical resources, enabling community members to better understand flood risk, prepare for storms, and strengthen long-term resilience.

Key features of Ponce Inlet's Forerunner public website include:

- **Centralized Resources:** Residents, builders, and developers can now access flood maps, elevation certificates, and property-specific records in one place.
- **Easy-to-Use Tools:** The platform helps community members visualize property-specific flood risk, access preparedness guidance, and find insurance and mitigation resources quickly.
- **Greater Transparency:** By consolidating information into a single portal, the Town is ensuring residents are well-informed and better equipped to respond to hurricanes and flood events.

“Our partnership with Forerunner marks an important step in how we serve our community,” said Hank Baker, Building Official/Floodplain Manager for the Town of Ponce Inlet. “By centralizing floodplain information, we’re making it easier for residents to access the resources they need, while also supporting our team’s ability to manage floodplain inspections and compliance. Forerunner helps us strengthen resilience today and for the future.”

Beyond the public website, Ponce Inlet’s floodplain management team is also using

Forerunner’s suite of tools—including elevation certificate management, logging resident communication, and tracking inspections—to improve compliance with federal Community Rating System (CRS) standards. These efforts help maintain the Town’s Class 5 CRS rating, ensuring cost savings for residents through discounted flood insurance premiums.

“Forerunner is proud to partner with Ponce Inlet,” said Susanna Pho, co-founder and COO of Forerunner. “The Town is leading by example in demonstrating how centralized tools can reduce flood risk, streamline inspections, and support resilience across the community.” To learn more, visit the Town of Ponce Inlet’s website at <https://www.ponce-inlet.org> or access the Forerunner public flood portal at <https://ponceinletfl.withforerunner.com>.

## Build Responsibly—Use Only Licensed Contractors

If your property is in a special flood hazard area and you are planning substantial improvements to your home—repairs equal to or greater than 50% of your home’s market value (not including land value)—then you must meet current Florida Building Code standards and comply with your local floodplain ordinance. Make sure you get a permit before you do any work, and work with a licensed contractor who knows the codes. An Elevation Certificate will be required and may already be on file at Town Hall.



## Flood Awareness

The number one weather-related killer in the United States is flash flooding. Eighty percent of flood-related deaths occur as a result of people driving through low-water crossings, walking along the banks of flooded areas, or playing in floodwaters, driving or walking into harm's way. Protecting life and property is the #1 priority. "TURN AROUND, DON'T DROWN."

## Code Enforcement Workshops

In June, the Town's Code Enforcement staff hosted a well-attended workshop to address concerns raised by community members. The event provided an opportunity to discuss a variety of important topics, including common types of violations, the code enforcement process, steps to take if you receive a violation notice, neighborhood concerns, and potential updates to code regulations. Feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive, and we look forward to hosting similar events in the near future. If you are interested in hosting or participating in upcoming workshops, please let us know.

## Hurricane Preparedness

As hurricane season is now well underway, we have begun receiving many calls regarding tree limbs, issues with neighboring homes, new construction sites, and related concerns. Our team has been proactively identifying and addressing potential issues to ensure they are resolved before any storm threats arise. We have also updated our contact lists for HOAs and their management companies, and we have reminded contractors to properly maintain their job sites.

## Proposed Code Enforcement Legislation

The Town's Code Compliance Manager (and

Past President of the Florida Association of Code Enforcement) is working with Senator McLain (Ocala) and Representative Partington (Ormond Beach) on proposed legislation related to body cameras. If approved, the legislation would require local code enforcement agencies to establish comprehensive policies and procedures for the proper training and use of body cameras. It would further require agencies to retain body camera data in compliance with public records laws and conduct periodic reviews of actual body camera practices to ensure consistency, accountability, and transparency. Finally, the proposed law would extend the same legal protections to code enforcement officers as it does to law enforcement officers when body cameras are being used. The 2026 legislative session runs from January 13th through March 13th. Most bills signed into law by the governor take effect July 1st at the beginning of the state's fiscal year. Stay tuned for further updates on this topic.

## Weekend Hours and Contact Information

As always, our Code Enforcement team is available to assist with community concerns six days a week, Monday through Saturday. Should you have any questions, need assistance, or wish to report a concern, we encourage you to reach out. Travis Mincey, one of our dedicated team members, is also available on Saturdays until 4:30 p.m. Travis can be reached by phone at 386-267-6676 (office) or 386-846-5926 (cell). If you see a violation occurring after hours or on Sundays, please report it to the Ponce Inlet Police Department by calling the non-emergency line at 386-248-1777 (press option #3 for assistance).

Thank you for your continued engagement and for helping to keep our community safe, clean, and welcoming. For more information, please visit the Town's Code Enforcement web page [here](#).

## From Public Works Director Steven Wargo



Public Works has several upcoming projects focused on improving both community spaces and vital infrastructure. Planned work includes constructing a new stormwater exfiltration system along Old Carriage Road and expanding the Beach Street retention pond to enhance drainage capacity. Facility upgrades at Town parks are also on the way, with bathroom renovations scheduled at Davies Park and Ponce Preserve, along with the installation of a new fence around the Pollard Park playground to provide added safety and accessibility for families.

Earlier this summer, residents may have noticed temporary lane closures and heavy equipment during two weeks in July and one week in August while crews carried out work on roadside swales. Every effort was made to minimize disruptions and maintain access to homes and side streets. As part of the Town's ongoing commitment to strengthening stormwater infrastructure and neighborhood resilience, additional swale improvements are scheduled to continue in late fall, weather permitting.

To further support residents, Public Works also launched Sandbag Saturday, a monthly event from July through October. These events provide residents with an opportunity to stock up on sandbags ahead of time to help prepare for the peak of hurricane season.





## Know your watering days

	Homes with odd-numbered or no addresses	Homes with even-numbered or no addresses	Nonresidential properties
Daylight Saving Time	Wednesday and Saturday	Thursday and Sunday	Tuesday and Friday
Eastern Standard Time	Saturday	Sunday	Tuesday

**These guidelines apply to all areas in Volusia County, including cities:**

- Water only when needed, and not between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- Water for no more than one hour per zone, and no more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch per zone.
- Restrictions apply to all water sources, including private wells and pumps, ground and surface water, and water from public and private utilities.



**Starting Sunday November 2nd, you may water your lawn only once a week.**

## Keep Our Storm Drains Clear!

Please avoid blowing grass clippings, leaves, or yard debris into storm drains. Blocked drains increase flooding risks and hinder proper water drainage. If you use a lawn service, please remind them to keep storm drains clear.

- **Bag your yard waste and place it out for pickup on Wednesday mornings.**
- **Keep piles of debris away from storm drains.**
- **Help protect our waterways—storm drains flow directly to canals and the river.**



# Garbage & Yard Waste Guidelines for Ponce Inlet Residents

## Pickup Schedule:

- **Garbage:** Collected twice a week on Monday and Thursday.
- **Recycling:** Collected once a week on Tuesday.
- **Yard Waste:** Collected once a week on Wednesday.

## Garbage Container Rules

- **Place All Garbage in Containers:** Put both moist and dry garbage into garbage cans or containers for pickup. Please no loose bags at the curbside.
- **Clean Up Spills:** Pick up and place any spilled garbage—caused by dogs, cats, raccoons, wind, or people—back into cans or containers.
- **Position Containers for Easy Access:** Set garbage cans and containers where collection crews can easily reach them.



## Yard Waste Disposal Tips

- **Pile Yard Waste Neatly:** Stack grass, leaves, small twigs, branches, and yard trimmings on the pavement or next to the street line for easy handling.
- **Keep Streets and Gutters Clear:** Avoid piling yard waste in the street or gutter to prevent it from washing away.

- **Protect Stormwater Drains:** Do not block stormwater drains with yard waste.

- **Cut Large Branches:** Trim large branches into pieces no longer than 4 feet and weighing no more than 40 pounds.

## Yard Waste does NOT include:

- Treated Lumber
- Rocks
- Soil
- Waste generated by tree surgeons or arborist services

**Yard debris co-mingled with non-organic material will not be collected.**

**Contractor Responsibility:** If a contractor is hired for vegetation trimming or removal, they are responsible for removing and disposing of the waste, not the town's waste service.

**Waste Pro** handles all garbage, yard waste, and recycling removal for single-family residences in Ponce Inlet.

- **Customer Service:** Residents can contact Waste Pro for inquiries, comments, or to report issues with trash services at 386-788-8890 or visit the website at <https://www.wasteprousa.com/office/daytona-beach/>

## Special Note for Condo/Multi-Family Residents

Residents in condos or multi-family units need to contact their condo association for specific pickup details, as Waste Pro's services outlined here apply only to single-family homes.

**Town Ordinance:** [Click Here](#)

# From Cultural Services Manager, Jackie Alex

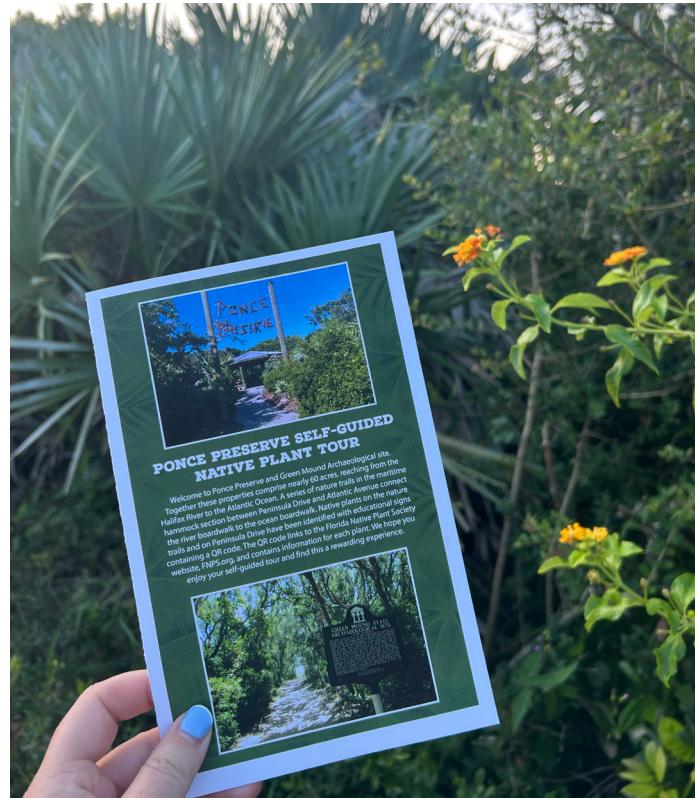


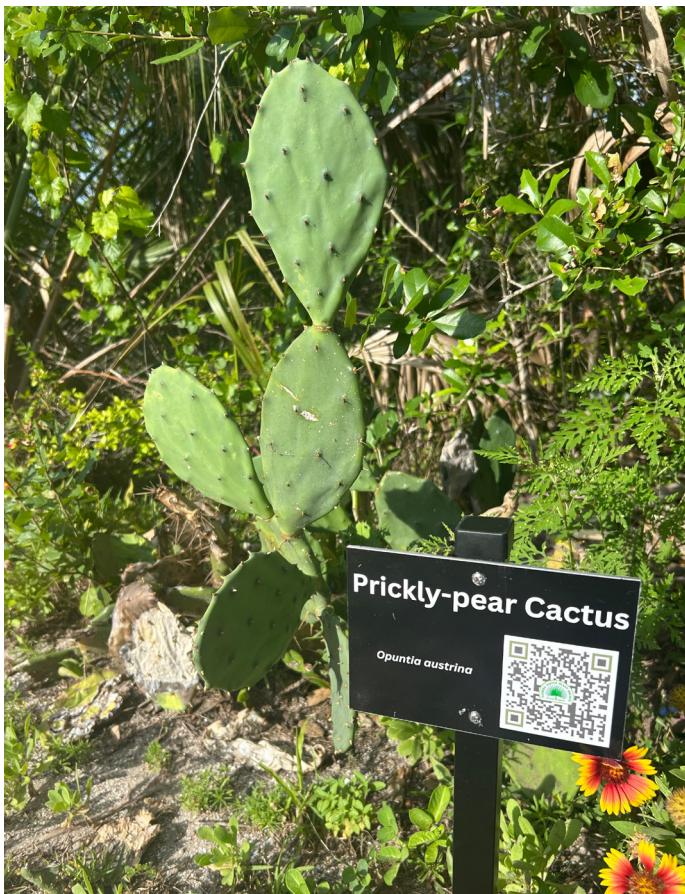
## Protecting Our Native Plants: A Community Effort

From the quiet trails to the towering tree canopies, residents often say they love to call this town home for the beauty of our natural surroundings, as well as the connection to community. Protecting that environment doesn't happen on its own. It takes careful stewardship, planning, and countless hours of work by both staff and volunteers making sure our green spaces remain healthy and welcoming.

Over the past few years, the department has placed special focus on protecting native plants. Together with state agencies, staff has introduced air potato beetles as a natural way of controlling the invasive air potato vine, while volunteers have contributed thousands of hours removing invasive plants from Ponce Preserve. Most recently, more than 60 native plants were highlighted along the trails within Ponce Preserve, with the creation of self-guided tour maps made possible through volunteer dedication, donations, and community support. These efforts not only restore balance to our environment but also

educate visitors, encouraging all of us to take part in protecting what makes Ponce Inlet unique.





## Programs That Build Community

In May, the department once again partnered with Young Bear Environmental (YBE Consulting, Inc.) to host another successful volunteer workday, this time at Timucuan Oaks Garden, where volunteers focused on removing the invasive arrowhead vine. Much like last year's air potato removal, this effort was essential to protecting native plants and the tree canopy that define our local ecosystems. Thanks to a passionate volunteer crew, the "Ponce Preservers," a significant portion of the vine was successfully removed from the park's understory. We could not be more grateful for the hard work of this group and our continued partnership with environmental experts. If you are interested in joining future volunteer efforts, please contact staff at the Cultural Services Department (see contact details below). Together, we are growing a greener, stronger community!



## Special Event Permits

Numerous special events are held in Ponce Inlet throughout the year. To determine if your event requires a Special Event permit, please review the Special Event regulations in Chapter 51 of the Town's Code of Ordinances. All questions can be directed to Jackie Alex, at [jalex@ponce-inlet.org](mailto:jalex@ponce-inlet.org) or (386) 322-6703.

## Upcoming Events

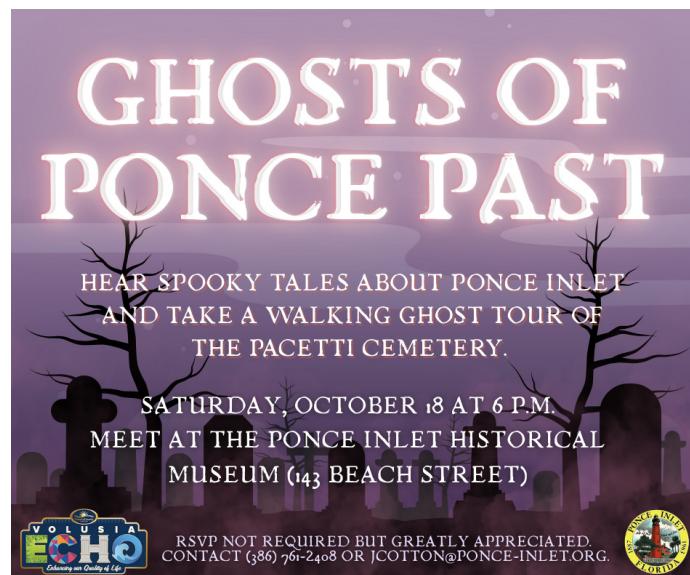
As we head into Fall, our team is embracing the change of seasons with continued efforts to host engaging programs and connect with our community. Please continue to visit the Town of Ponce Inlet website and Facebook page for additional details. For all events, please contact Julie Cotton with any questions at [jcotton@ponce-inlet.org](mailto:jcotton@ponce-inlet.org) or (386)761-2408.

## Events for October:

### Ghosts of Ponce Past

Hear spooky tales about Ponce Inlet and take a walking ghost tour of the Pacetti Cemetery.

**Saturday, October 18, 2025, at 6:00 PM**  
Ponce Inlet Historical Museum  
143 Beach Street, meet outside on the lawn.  
**Free;** RSVP not required, but greatly appreciated. Contact Julie at: [jcotton@ponce-inlet.org](mailto:jcotton@ponce-inlet.org) or (386) 761-2408



### Children's Halloween Party

Come in costume and have spooktacular fun with children's games, haunted hayrides, and more!

**Friday, October 24, 2025, at 5:30-7:30 PM**  
Kay & Ayres Davies Lighthouse Park  
4931 S. Peninsula Dr.

**Free;** RSVP not required.

For more information, contact Jackie at [jalex@ponce-inlet.org](mailto:jalex@ponce-inlet.org) or (386)322-6703.



### Scavenger Hunt at the Park

Come look for spooky treasure and make a memory with your little one on a tiny tot park adventure, then join us for a Halloween-themed craft project! Recommended for children age 2 and up.

**Friday, October 31, 2025, at 9:00 AM**  
Timucuan Oaks Garden  
4550 S. Peninsula Dr., outside on the lawn.  
**Free;** RSVP by 10/24 required. Contact Julie at: [jcotton@ponce-inlet.org](mailto:jcotton@ponce-inlet.org) or (386) 761-2408



**Scavenger Hunt  
at the Park**

**10/31 @ 9:00 AM**

**Timucuan Oaks Garden  
4550 S. Peninsula Dr.,  
outside on the lawn.**

**Parents and children age 2 and up  
RSVP by 10/24 required  
Contact (386) 761-2408 or email  
jcotton@ponce-inlet.org**

**PONCE INLET FLORIDA**

## Events for November:

### Live Raptor Encounter

Meet a live bird of prey at the Ponce Inlet Historical Museum! A representative from the Marine Science Center will teach us all about bird rehabilitation, conservation, and adaptations. ECHO Ranger Program—all are welcome!

**Saturday, November 8, 2025, at 10:00 AM**

Ponce Inlet Historical Museum

143 Beach St., outside on the lawn.

**Free;** space is limited to 12 people. RSVP by 11/01 required Contact Julie at: [jcotton@ponce-inlet.org](mailto:jcotton@ponce-inlet.org) or (386) 761-2408



### LIVE RAPTOR ENCOUNTER

MEET A LIVE RAPTOR & LEARN ABOUT BIRDS OF PREY, CONSERVATION, AND REHABILITATION WITH EDUCATORS FROM THE MARINE SCIENCE CENTER. ECHO RANGER PROGRAM - ALL ARE WELCOME!

**SATURDAY 11/8 @ 10 AM**  
**ponce inlet historical museum**  
**143 beach street,ponce inlet, fl**  
**outside on the lawn**

**FREE; RSVP BY 11/1 REQUIRED.**  
**SPACE IS LIMITED TO 12 PEOPLE.**



### Veterans Day Ceremony in Ponce Inlet

The Ponce Inlet Veterans Memorial Association will be hosting its annual Veterans Day Ceremony, and all are welcome to attend!

**Tuesday, November 11, 2025, at 10:00 AM**

Kay & Ayres Davies Lighthouse Park

4931 S. Peninsula Dr.

**Free;** no RSVP required. Contact Jackie at [jalex@ponce-inlet.org](mailto:jalex@ponce-inlet.org) or (386)322-6703 for more information.

### Sediments of Ponce Preserve

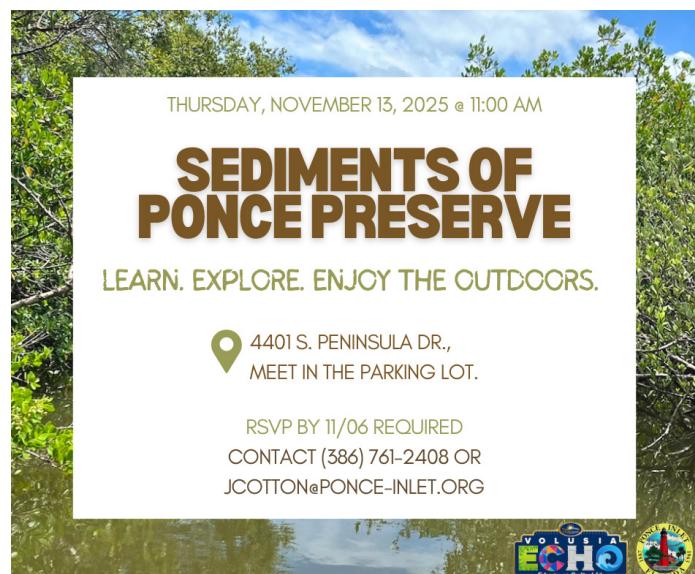
Join Professor Benjamin Tanner and take a walk along the trails of Ponce Preserve to discover the sediment records of the park. We will also discuss the relationship between soils and plants. Be prepared to get your hands dirty as we take soil core samples and learn what Ponce Preserve was like in the past.

**Thursday, November 13, 2025, at 11:00 AM**

Ponce Preserve

4401 S. Peninsula Drive, meet in the parking lot.

**Free;** RSVP by 11/6 required. Contact Julie at: [jcotton@ponce-inlet.org](mailto:jcotton@ponce-inlet.org) or (386) 761-2408



**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2025 @ 11:00 AM**

## SEDIMENTS OF PONCE PRESERVE

**LEARN. EXPLORE. ENJOY THE OUTDOORS.**

**4401 S. PENINSULA DR.,  
MEET IN THE PARKING LOT.**

**RSVP BY 11/06 REQUIRED**  
**CONTACT (386) 761-2408 OR**  
**JCOTTON@PONCE-INLET.ORG**

**ECHO**  
**Education on Quality of Life**

**PONCE INLET FLORIDA**

## Sandbox Archaeology

In this program, kids can learn the basics of archaeology and dig for “artifacts” in their own miniature excavation site. We will also learn the importance of mapping sites and keeping records in a field journal. This program is recommended for children age 4 and up.

**Saturday, November 15, 2025, at 10:00 AM**

Ponce Inlet Historical Museum

143 Beach St., outside on the lawn.

**\$5 per participant;** space is limited to 12 participants. Pre-payment required at Town Hall by 11/7. Contact Julie at: [jcotton@ponce-inlet.org](mailto:jcotton@ponce-inlet.org) or (386) 761-2408

## Sandbox Archaeology

**11/15/2025 @ 10:00 AM**

Recommended for children age 4 and up



📍 Ponce Inlet Historical Museum

143 Beach Street  
outside on the lawn

★ Space is limited to 12 participants. Pre-payment to Town Hall by 11/7 required.

❓ Contact (386) 761-2408 or  
[jcotton@ponce-inlet.org](mailto:jcotton@ponce-inlet.org)  
for more information.

## Resin at the Museum – Make a Wave

Create a beach-themed resin collage with sea treasure! Your ocean-inspired masterpiece will make a great home decoration or holiday gift. No experience necessary. Recommended for ages 10+.

**Friday, November 21, 2025, at 11:00 AM**

Ponce Inlet Historical Museum

143 Beach Street, meet outside on the lawn.

**\$15 per participant;** space is limited to 12 participants. Pre-payment required at Town Hall by 11/14. Contact Julie at: [jcotton@ponce-inlet.org](mailto:jcotton@ponce-inlet.org) or (386) 761-2408

**11/21/2025 @ 11 AM**

## Resin at the Museum! Make a Wave

**Ponce Inlet Historical Museum**  
143 Beach Street

**\$15 per participant. Pre-payment to Town Hall required by 11/14.** Space is limited to 12 people. Recommended for ages 10 and up.

**VOLUNTEER ECHO**  
Celebrating the Quality of Life

## Events for December:

### Town Tree Lighting and Visit with Santa

Join us as we welcome the holiday season by lighting the Town tree and enjoying a visit from Santa. There will also be a kid's craft table and light refreshments.

**Friday, December 5, 2024, at 6:00 PM,  
promptly**

Pollard Park

4680 S. Peninsula Dr.

**Free;** no RSVP required. Contact Jackie at [jalex@ponce-inlet.org](mailto:jalex@ponce-inlet.org) or (386)322-6703 for more information.

### Christmas Parade & Breakfast with Santa

Hosted by the Ponce Inlet Veterans Memorial Association.

**Saturday, December 6, 2025**

**Breakfast with Santa at 9:00 AM**

Ponce Inlet Community Center

4670 S. Peninsula Dr.

**The \$5.00 fee benefits the Veterans Memorial Association and Operation Changing Lives.**

**The Christmas Parade starts at 2:00 PM.**



*The route proceeds NORTH along S. Peninsula Dr. from Davies Park to Harbour Village Blvd.*  
**Free.**

For more information contact—

Mark Oebbecke: [piveterans@yahoo.com](mailto:piveterans@yahoo.com)  
Cherise Wintz: [cherises39@yahoo.com](mailto:cherises39@yahoo.com)



### **Learn How to Plant Like a Floridian with ReGrow Volusia**

Sergeneno Rankin, Sustainability and Outreach Coordinator for Volusia County, will share tips on protecting waterways and provide a live demonstration of various arrangements of native, non-native, and invasive plant species. He will also show participants how to make an effective bug repellent using Florida native beautyberry.

**Friday, December 12, 2025, at 10:30 AM**

Town Council Chambers  
4300 S. Atlantic Avenue

**Free;** registration opens November 15 on Green Volusia's Eventbrite page [here](#). Contact Julie at: [jcotton@ponce-inlet.org](mailto:jcotton@ponce-inlet.org) or (386) 761-2408



### **Merry Old-Fashioned Christmas!**

Celebrate with live holiday music, old-fashioned games, memorable crafts, and a tour of the museum! ECHO Ranger Program—all are welcome!

**Saturday, December 13, 2025, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM**

Ponce Inlet Historical Museum  
143 Beach Street, outside on the lawn.

**Free;** RSVP by 12/7 required. Contact Julie at [jcotton@ponce-inlet.org](mailto:jcotton@ponce-inlet.org) or (386) 761-2408





## MARINE SCIENCE CENTER BIRD HOSPITAL

By Katie Hellman - Bird Hospital Manager

The Marine Science Center Bird Hospital in Ponce Inlet cares for approximately 1,100 birds annually. In 2025, we've already treated 725 birds. Our hospital accepts injured native birds 7 days a week from 8 AM to 4 PM. As we wrap up the busy baby bird season, we'd like to highlight one of our patient's journeys.

A juvenile red-bellied woodpecker was admitted after a Ponce Inlet resident found it unable to fly. Our team examined the bird and determined it was a juvenile woodpecker that was lethargic with incomplete feather growth. After receiving supportive care to restore hydration, body condition, and proper feather development, the woodpecker regained its ability to fly and was successfully released back to Ponce Inlet after a short stay.



Red-bellied woodpeckers are distinctive with their barred backs and red head caps. These solitary, territorial birds only typically socialize during mating season. They thrive in wooded areas, nesting in cavities they excavate in dead trees or limbs. As year-round residents, they're often heard making loud calls. You may spot or hear them near your home.

Our dedicated bird staff works tirelessly to intake patients, administer treatments, and manage inquiries. We depend on the public, animal control, beach safety, and volunteers to transport birds to our facility, as our team focuses on caring for hospitalized patients. While we may not always assist directly with rescues, we strive to provide guidance or resources case by case.

If you find an injured native bird, contact the Marine Science Center Bird Hospital at (386) 304-5530 between 8 AM and 4 PM. For after-hours emergencies, call (386) 561-0624.

### Contact Information:

**Hours:** 8 AM–4 PM, 7 days a week

**Phone:** (386) 304-5530 (regular hours); (386) 561-0624 (after hours)

# I Found a Baby Bird... Now What?



# How to Rescue Baby Raptors and Waterbirds

Call a wildlife rehabilitator for specific advice before attempting to handle adult birds.

1. **Note exactly where the bird was found.** Look for a possible nest in a nearby tree. Note if its parents or siblings are in the area. This will be very important for release.
2. **Prepare a box.** Place a cloth with no frays or loops on the bottom of a cardboard box with holes punched in it or cat/dog carrier, and secure it closed.
3. **Protect yourself.** Wear thick gloves, if available. Even sick and injured birds may try to stab with their beaks, grasp with their talons (claws), or slap with their wings. Birds may carry diseases or parasites such as lice, ticks, and intestinal parasites.
4. **Cover the entire bird with a light sheet or towel, including its head.**
5. **Pick up the bird.** With its wings folded up against its body, pick up the bird by its sides. If necessary, gently restrain the head so it does not bite or peck you. Mind the feet so they do not grab you. Place the bird into the prepared container.
6. **Warm the bird if it is cold or featherless.** Use a heating pad under half of the box on low, or fill a water bottle with hot water and wrap it with a cloth and place it next to the bird inside the box. Double-check to make sure it does not leak to prevent the animal from becoming wet.
7. **Secure the box shut.**
8. **Keep the bird in a dark, quiet place away from drafts.** Do not give food or water. To reduce its stress and habituation, do not handle or talk to the bird. Keep children and pets away.
9. **Sanitize after contact with the bird.** Wash anything the bird was in contact with including your hands and clothes.
10. **Contact a wildlife rehabilitator, state wildlife agency, or wildlife veterinarian as soon as possible.** Do not keep the bird longer than necessary. Keep the bird in a container; do not let it loose in your house.
11. **Get the bird to a wildlife rehabilitator as soon as possible.**

*Marine Science Center Bird Hospital*

*4965 S. Peninsula Dr.*

*Ponce Inlet, FL 32127*

*(386) 304-5530*

*Hospital Hours*

**Open 7 days a week: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

**It is against the law attempt to keep wild animals without a permit even if you are planning to release it.**



**10<sup>a.m.</sup> to 3<sup>p.m.</sup> • Saturday, November 1**

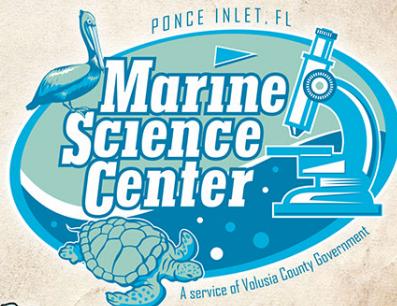
- Family fun & presentations
- Food and music
- Organizations & vendors offering environmental merchandise

### **Stuffed Animal Triage Tent:**

Children can buy a stuffed owl or eagle and ask the staff to check it out for "injuries."

### **FREE ADMISSION ALL DAY**

For more information, call 386-304-5545 or visit [marinesciencecenter.com](http://marinesciencecenter.com).

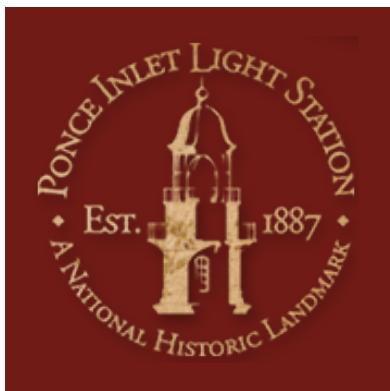


**DOWN THE HATCH SEAFOOD COMPANY**

*Est. 1973*

# Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and Museum

by Zach Hopple



Fall for the Programs Department of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse means new school groups coming to experience the thrill of climbing the lighthouse, homeschool groups making Florida history a priority, and wonderful onsite educational days that enthrall lighthouse fans new and old.

Summer brought families to the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse, as vacationers flocked to the Daytona area to enjoy the sun and beaches. Thousands of children, temporarily freed from their schoolhouses, enjoyed the summer with camps, outings with families, and, of course, trips to the local libraries to escape the heat and rain.

Thousands of students were able to experience the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and Constance D. Hunter Historic Pacetti Hotel Museum throughout dozens of summer camps. The dedicated volunteer corps of the lighthouse dispensed the important history of the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and dodged the Florida heat and weather, while Volusia County children climbed the 203 steps up Florida's tallest lighthouse.

A collaboration with the Marine Science Center allowed a new educational exhibit to take the forefront at the Constance D.

Hunter Historic Pacetti Hotel. Students and guests engaged with a unique offering, Sharks in the Inlet. The newly reopened Marine Science Center loaned a number of artifacts, including taxidermy sharks, while the volunteer corps of the lighthouse engaged visitors with the history of sharks here in Ponce Inlet. While the east coast of Florida remains the highest in volume of shark attacks in the world, the stigma of sharks can easily be dispelled. Students were able to learn about the reasons behind the number of sharks that roam these waters and get a better understanding of the natural habitat of sharks in our area, as well as identify sharks by their teeth. More dates are being added for the display throughout the fall, so make sure to follow the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse on social media for more dates and times.



Each year the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse participates in a series of educational and fun presentations at libraries across Volusia County. This year's theme was all about Lighthouse Crafts. Hundreds of children had the ability to learn about the history of children who lived at the lighthouse throughout history, as well as make exciting kids' crafts.

Did you know that the owners of the Pacetti Hotel Museum also owned the Cincinnati Reds baseball team throughout the 1970s, an era that became known as the "Big Red Machine"? Come and celebrate the 1975 and 1976 back-to-back World Series championships with onsite activities beginning at 10:00am and lasting until 3:00pm. Festivities include historic presentations, artifact demonstrations, children's craft activities, and much more.

Enjoy the sounds of the season as the Daytona Beach Concert Band performs classic holiday tunes and modern favorites. Following the festivities, ring in the holiday season by taking in the sights from the top of Florida's tallest lighthouse and visiting the Historic Pacetti Hotel Museum. All activities are included with the general admission price. Following the concert, the Ponce Inlet Christmas Parade will take place at 2:00pm, making it a fun and festive day throughout the town!

The Constance D. Hunter Historic Pacetti Hotel is always updating and adding new exhibits. On August 22nd, the newest museum in Ponce Inlet celebrated the one-year anniversary of the soft opening. Whether you have seen it multiple times or you have not had the opportunity to visit yet, now is the perfect time, as there are constant changes taking place to add to the expansive history. New artifacts are being added regularly, and guided tours of the building take place often. Make sure to take

a look at the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and Museum calendar of events for upcoming tours at both the lighthouse and Historic Pacetti Hotel Museum. Your general admission always includes these tours.

## Volunteer Opportunities

The Ponce Inlet Lighthouse and Museum are always looking for enthusiastic new volunteers to assist in a variety of ways. From giving tours to leading workshops to assisting the curatorial staff to bring new artifacts and exhibits to the public, volunteerism helps to enable all aspects of the lighthouse. For more information on volunteering, please contact Programs Manager Zach Hopple at [education@ponceinlet.org](mailto:education@ponceinlet.org) or via telephone at 386-761-1821.





Even with a quiet summer with no Board of Trustees meeting, there was still a lot of activity. The farmers market had a summer break during July and August but is now back every Sunday from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. The vendors may change a bit from week to week, but you can always count on them providing some phenomenal offerings.

The much-anticipated arrival of Salty Church's Sunday services here will be a reality on October 26th. We welcome them as a great new addition to the Community Center and Ponce Inlet. Between the farmers market and Salty Church, we will have busy Sundays!

We have been busy renting the Community Center for weddings and receptions, birthday parties, baby showers, and celebrations of life. It has become the venue of choice for people that are comfortable with a do-it-yourself venue where everything is at your disposal to use. Just a reminder that a 15% discount is available to all Ponce Inlet residents. To find out more about renting the Community Center, go to our website at [www.picommunitycenter.com](http://www.picommunitycenter.com) or call 386-281-0589.

Our flea market on October 3rd and 4th will be our last. So, hopefully you had a chance to take advantage of the goods for sale. Lastly, hopefully you will attend The Garden Club of Ponce Inlet's annual Art, Craft, and Plant Show on October 10th and 11th.

It always brings in some wonderful craft and art vendors and a super selection of plants. If you can't make it, be sure you look for it next year.





by Kevin Kirsch

Hello, my neighbors in Ponce Inlet! Fall is in the air, and with cooler temperatures, what a great time to take in a wonderful schedule of car shows, parades, cruises for meals, as well as cruises to retirement homes for residents, and of course, the annual Turkey Run.

As part of our mission statement to give back to our community, and being more than halfway through 2025, I'd like to share that we, as a club, have donated nearly \$6,000 to various charities in Volusia County. The Charity Committee is extremely proud to have been able to have donated to the following worthy causes: Ponce Inlet Lighthouse, God's Bathhouse, Sophie's Circle, Turtle Patrol, The Chiles Academy, Ponce Inlet Foundation, and Cuda's Unhooked.

If you are interested in Corvettes or have a Corvette and enjoy helping others, consider joining our club for the good people and service we do for our community. I was especially taken aback by the representative who attended our August dinner meeting sharing the mission of Cuda's Unhooked. <https://www.cudasunhooked.org>. I had no idea there are, at any given time, at NSB High School, as many as 50 homeless students. This organization has procured a 3-bedroom, 2-bath home for shelter for up to 5 children to make it to graduation. Imagine that—children that just need a chance to finish high school and a hand up

to succeed. One such student has gone on to earn his PhD!

Please Google these organizations for yourself and just see the work these organizations do and their needs; they are tremendous. Truly inspirational people doing great work.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- Saturday, September 20 - Artis Senior Living Facility, 2 Corporate Drive W, Palm Coast, FL, 1:30-4:00 pm
- Thursday, October 9 - Port Orange Family Days, City Center, Port Orange, 5 - 9 pm Corvette Car Show
- Thursday, October 16 - PICC General Membership Meeting at Hidden Lakes Golf Club at 5:00 pm
- Saturday, October 18 - Vettes On The Avenue, Space Coast Vettes, Melbourne, FL 7:30 am - 3:30 pm - Registration postmark 9/1/25 [SpaceCoastVettes.com](http://SpaceCoastVettes.com)
- Saturday, November 8 - Marion County, Corvette Club of Marion County, Ocala, FL
- Saturday, November 22 - Knights of Columbus, Church of the Epiphany, 201 Lafayette, Port Orange 10:00 am - 2 pm

Fins Up, Ponce Inlet

### **Mission Statement:**

The Ponce Inlet Corvette Club passionately unites Corvette enthusiasts to celebrate the heritage and enjoyment of Corvettes through social events and shared experiences. Committed to making a positive impact, the club actively supports local charities—most notably through their annual “Vettes at One Daytona” car show—channeling proceeds into community programs that aid the homeless, families in need, and other important causes. Through fostering fellowship, promoting the Corvette lifestyle, and giving back generously, the club strives to enrich both its members and the wider Volusia County community.

# Garden Club of Ponce Inlet

by Deb Smith-Ehmann

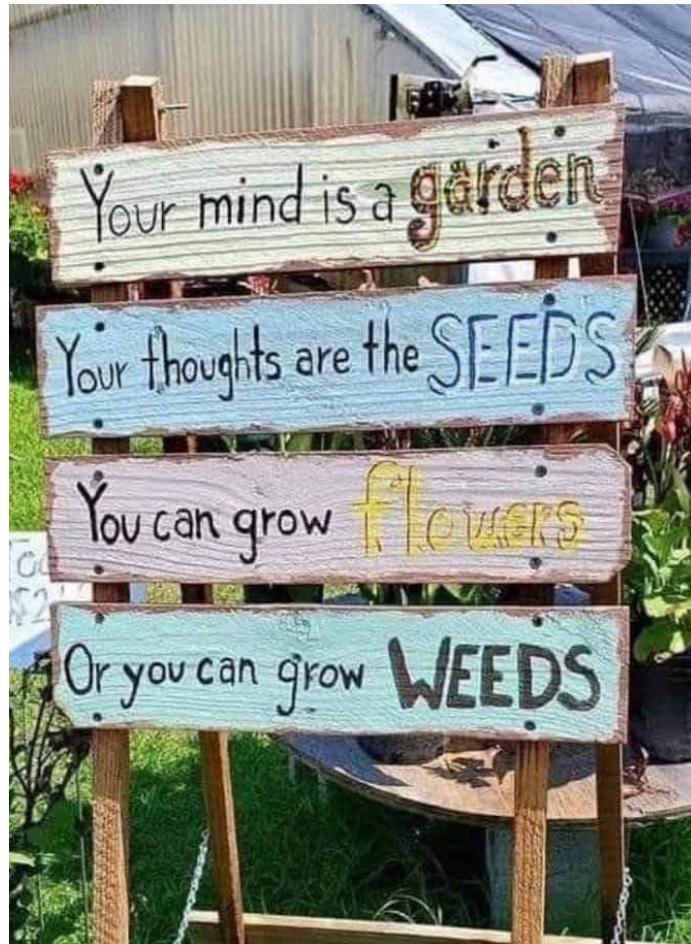


Happy Fall to all, and welcome to the 44th year of the Garden Club of Ponce Inlet!

We are very excited to welcome back all our members and celebrate the beginning of our 44th year as a club in Ponce Inlet. As we have in past years, our club will work diligently to ensure that we accomplish all of the goals set forth for the upcoming year, while continuing to promote the beauty of our town. To that end, our first membership meeting of the year was held on September 24th.

Our club is very excited to hold its first big event of the year, the Annual Arts, Crafts, and Plant Show, on October 10th and 11th. This is an annual event that our club has been hosting for over 30 years. Highlights of our show include 40+ indoor and outdoor vendors and our Garden Club Crafters and JJ's Jewelry joining in the fun, displaying and selling some of their lovely crafts and handmade jewelry. And of course, we have our Annual Garden Club Plant Sale showcasing some popular and unique plants. Be sure to visit this booth if looking for some fall foliage for your home. Not to be undone, we also feature our Annual Bake Sale! Plus, Joe "The Hot Dog Guy" will be on hand to sell breakfast and lunch sandwiches. Finally, our raffle items are always a huge hit, with everyone's favorite being our Lottery Tree. So, stop by and visit our show; you never know if it is your time

to become a big winner by taking a chance to win our Scratch Off Lottery Tree!

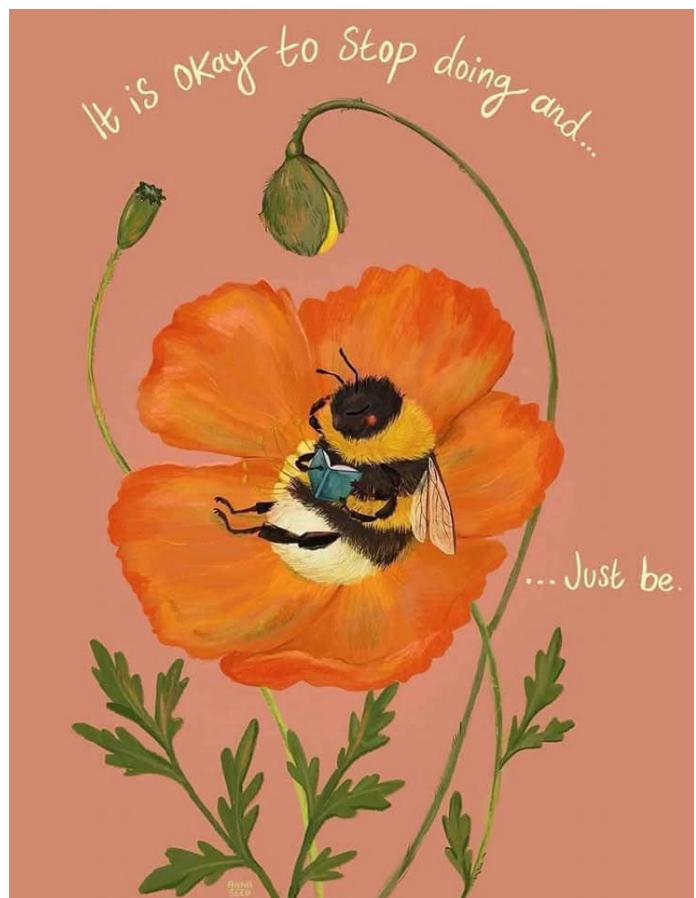


Just to give you all a taste of what we have planned for the upcoming year, we will be hosting some wonderful and informative speakers at our October 2025, November 2025, January 2026, and February 2026 meetings. In October, Chad Macfie, with the Marine Science Center (Ponce Inlet), will discuss recent improvements to the facility. In November, Danny Young, from Young Bear Environmental (Edgewater), will be our speaker. His topic will be "By Yards and Waves: Introduction to Living Shorelines." In January, Jenna Workman, of Fairytale Gardens (Deland), will treat us to a presentation about "Creating the Magical World of Fairy Gardens." And finally, for our February meeting, Julie Roth, with The Magnolia Company (Barberville), will show us how to create "Magnolia Wreaths," which should be a lot of fun!

In December, our club holds its annual holiday luncheon, and in March, we have our annual 'Looking to the New Year' organizational meeting. April is always a special meeting for us since we hold our annual Arbor Day celebration. At this meeting, we will be celebrating the 32nd anniversary of Ponce Inlet being declared a Tree City. For those of you who may not be familiar with our Arbor Day celebration, we welcome our mayor and town managers to join us in paying tribute to the Town of Ponce Inlet for its continued efforts to maintain our status as a Tree City. Ponce Inlet is one of only 166 Tree Cities in the state of Florida. At this same meaning, we also recognize and award our charitable donations to organizations, as recommended and voted on by our members, who provide meaningful and much-needed services in our area.



And finally, in May we say goodbye for the season to our members and celebrate our accomplishments from the year, but not before we host our Annual Ice Cream Social on May 3, a treat for all of our residents, families, and friends, with ice cream generously donated by Lighthouse Ice Cream. As a club, you will also find us participating in the Ponce Inlet annual Halloween Party, the Holiday Christmas Parade, the Marine Science Center's Christmas Tree Festival, and the Ponce Preserves the Planet event. As you can see, we have a very, very busy year ahead of us, so come out and join our club in all of the fun events we have in store for the year!



Our Monthly Beautification Awards, which go to residents of Ponce Inlet who have eye-catching landscapes, will resume in October and continue throughout the year, with the exception of January, February, and April. In December, our Beautification Committee will also be choosing the winners of the Holiday Lights Award.

Recipients of these awards are always proud to be recognized by our club and delighted to be able to display our beautiful new Beautification sign, painted by one of our own talented members, on their lawns.

Our Garden Club works hard all year long to give back to our community, and with the support of all of our members, we can continue to do so. One of the ways that we proudly give back to our community is by awarding scholarships in the form of class trips to the Marine Science Center for all children and grade levels from RJ Longstreet Elementary School.



As always, we thank all of our members for their ongoing support and contributions to our club. Anyone interested in joining our club or seeing what we are all about is welcome to join us as our guest at one of our membership meetings, which are held on the 4th Wednesday of the month starting at 10:30AM at the Ponce Inlet Community Center.

## Garden Club of Ponce Inlet Arts, Crafts & Plants Sale



Friday and Saturday  
October 10th and 11th, 2025  
10am-4pm

Artists, Crafters, Gardeners  
Bake Sale  
Raffles & Refreshments

Location: Ponce Inlet Community Center 4670 S. Peninsula Drive

# Ponce Inlet Lions Club

## We Serve

### By Nancy Epps, President



As you can see, I have added our motto, "We Serve," to the name of this article. It will be there going forward because that is the core of our organization.

In the last newsletter, we shared the excitement of Florida Lions for the International Lions Convention coming to Orlando this July. The event was a resounding success, with no complaints and over 20,000 Lions from around the world gathering in Central Florida. Four Ponce Inlet Lions participated: Lions Mahyar and Shirley Okhovatian warmly welcomed arriving Lions at Orlando International Airport, while Lion Dan Snyder and I accompanied four students from the Conklin Davis Center for the Visually Impaired to greet Lions checking into the Swan Hotel on Disney property. Our students had a memorable experience, especially meeting a wonderful couple from Australia whose kindness and charming Aussie accents left a lasting impression!



Shirley Okhovatian at Orlando International Airport with a Lion who is visiting the convention.

Lions Clubs International has several global initiatives, including the environment. We recently recycled over 1400 pounds of clothing in the big blue collection container at the PICC—thank you! We plan to place it again at the end of October and throughout the rest of the year. We're continuing the aluminum pop top collection project, previously led by the late Sherry Utter, to benefit R.J. Longstreet Elementary School. Please drop off your Ziploc bags of pop tops at the community center office, Monday through Friday, 9 AM to noon.



We are working out our plans for bingo, so please watch for an announcement on Next Door and our webpage, [www.pilions.org](http://www.pilions.org), for the details.

Due to limited staffing, we're unable to host Barktoberfest this year. We plan to hold a bingo event instead to support our fundraising efforts.

We will be dining at Mulligan's Restaurant every third Wednesday from 5 to 7 PM. The address is 3830 S. Nova Road, Port Orange, in the shopping center that includes Debbie's Health Food and Wells Fargo bank. Join us and help us raise funds for our charities. We have our own delicious drink called Lions Mane—ask for it! Lion Dan tells me their Pittsburg-style hamburgers are delicious, too.



**MULLIGAN'S GRILLE**  
DO IT OVER AND OVER AGAIN

Please plan to support all our fundraisers so we can support our services, including eye exams, eyeglasses, eye surgeries, vision testing, retina screening, diabetes screening, the Florida Lions Eye Bank, the Conklin Davis Center for the Visually Impaired, etc.



# Ponce Inlet Veterans Memorial Association



With no meetings during the summer, our focus has been on the ongoing efforts to make the Walls of Remembrance, which are to the south of the existing memorial, a reality. With the block structure in place, we anticipate the granite being installed in September and the surrounding pavers installed in October—hopefully just in time for Veterans Day.

We embarked on this effort because no other pavers were available for people to recognize a veteran. When completed, we anticipate that between the stainless-steel plaques on the walls and the pavers surrounding the walls, we will be able to have 1,500 more veterans recognized at the Memorial. This allows us to remain true to our mission of ensuring there is always a place in Ponce Inlet to recognize the sacrifice our veterans make in defense of our nation.

Should you like to recognize a veteran—either with a plaque or paver—please go to our website below to place an order. We probably won't have them installed by Veterans Day, but we will keep you posted on their installation.

## Veterans Day

Our Veterans Day ceremony will again provide a moving and special celebration of service to our country by all veterans. We do hope that we will be able to dedicate the Walls of Remembrance, which will make the day that much more special.

Veterans Day Ceremony in Ponce Inlet  
Monday, November 11, 2024 @ 10:00 AM  
Kay & Ayres Davies Lighthouse Park  
4931 S. Peninsula Dr.

[www.ponceinletveterans.org](http://www.ponceinletveterans.org)



# **PONCE INLET ANIMAL WELFARE**

**"PAW"**

**BY NANCY EPPS, PRESIDENT**



September 11th marks the 2016 passing of our co-founder, Jo Ellen Basile. She was a dedicated lover of all God's creatures, including sea turtles and cats. She and the late Alan Redinger were key players in working with the town to found Ponce Inlet Animal Welfare (PAW), with the input of two animal control officers from Ormond Beach.

JoEllen trapped several stray cats and provided care for them in her home until they were ready for adoption. According to records in my possession, at one time, there were over 200 dumpster-diving strays! Our trap-neuter-release to field (TNR) program has reduced that number to only an occasional stray cat, including the two who are full-time residents of our town-approved colony.

In addition to her longtime work with the cats, she was also a member of turtle patrol. She moved to Marathon Key, FL, to run the turtle hospital there. That was when Alan asked me to take over PAW as president. Jo Ellen returned to Ponce Inlet, but shortly afterward she was diagnosed with her second case of breast cancer. This time, it took her life.

I am told she had a beautiful voice that she used to praise the Lord at Ponce Church.

I regret that I never heard her sing, as she and I were not members of the church at the same time. If anyone has a recording, I would appreciate it if you would share it with me.

I often miss JoEllen and her wisdom about cats. She was the first person I knew who brought up the importance of buying BPA-free cans of cat food. It is now standard for canned food intended for human consumption.

Let me know if you have any stray cat needs or just have a general question about cats. I will do my best to get you an answer. [nancyepps@cfl.rr.com](mailto:nancyepps@cfl.rr.com) or 386-795-2310.

Have a great fall and enjoy the cooler weather.



# Ponce Inlet Women's Club

by Rene Joy Rodriguez

As autumn settles into our beautiful coastal town, the Ponce Inlet Women's Club is delighted to share updates, upcoming events, and stories that reflect the vibrant spirit and dedication of our members. With over 83 active members and growing, our club remains committed to fostering meaningful connections among women, empowering one another through service, and enhancing the quality of life in Ponce Inlet and surrounding communities. To stay informed throughout the year, we encourage everyone to follow our Facebook page for the latest news and event details.

This edition includes highlights from recent gatherings, previews of exciting upcoming activities, and information on special projects that underscore our ongoing commitment to community enrichment.

In April, we welcomed member and guest speaker Betsey Lindley, who led an insightful discussion on the mind-body connection. Her presentation was both engaging and thought-provoking, offering valuable perspectives on wellness and personal growth.

Our annual social outing took place in St. Augustine aboard a luxury motor coach. The day was filled with sunshine, shopping, sightseeing, and dining. It was an unforgettable experience enjoyed by all who attended.

In May, we were honored to host Felipe dePaula, curator of the Pacetti House in Ponce Inlet. Mr. dePaula shared the fascinating history and restoration efforts of the Pacetti Property, a cherished landmark in our town.

After a summer hiatus, the club reconvened in September with a welcome back luncheon and a lively game of Bunco. It was a wonderful way to reconnect and kick off the new season.

Looking ahead, we invite you to join us for several exciting events. At our October 8th meeting, 95 & Vine will host a special wine tasting at the Ponce Inlet Community Center. This promises to be a delightful afternoon of flavor and fellowship. On October 16th, we will co-host the Witches Luncheon and fundraiser with the Daughters of the American Revolution at The Palmetto Club in Daytona Beach. This enchanting afternoon will benefit historic markers and educational scholarships. Guests will enjoy a performance of the Witches Dance by The Creekettes, as well as fall and Halloween-themed crafts for sale. Costumes are encouraged, and witchy spirits are warmly welcomed! Tickets are available at the Ponce Inlet Community Center during regular business hours for \$35.00. For more information, please contact Vickie Smith at [Vickiesmith2158@gmail.com](mailto:Vickiesmith2158@gmail.com).

Our annual Holiday Boutique is scheduled for November 12th and will feature a catered lunch, raffles, 50/50 drawings, gift baskets, holiday crafts, and a photo opportunity with Santa. Tickets are \$45 and will be available for purchase at the Community Center Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, beginning in October. This popular event tends to sell out quickly, so be sure to mark your calendars.

In December, we invite you to vote for your favorite submission at the Christmas Tree Exhibit, held at the Ponce Inlet Community Center on December 5th and 6th. We're thrilled for you to see the creative work our members have prepared. And don't miss the club's spirited participation in the annual Christmas Parade on December 6th!

If you're seeking new friendships, meaningful ways to serve the community, and a whole lot of fun, we warmly welcome you to join the Ponce Inlet Women's Club. To get started, please contact Urszula Zumwalt at [uzumwalt@yahoo.com](mailto:uzumwalt@yahoo.com). Our meetings are held from September through May at 10:30 AM on the second Wednesday of each month. Residents of Ponce Inlet and neighboring areas are encouraged to attend.

Thank you for being part of our journey. We look forward to growing together, supporting one another, and continuing to make a positive impact in our beloved town. I hope you enjoy these photos from past events!







PIC•COLLAGE



# Citizens For PONCE INLET

## TOWN OF PONCE INLET

The purpose of the Town's section of this Newsletter is to provide information to its citizens and businesses that concern the workings of the Town government. Articles feature the various departments of the Town and include pertinent information to educate and inform individuals on issues of interest to them.

To avoid the appearance of political favoritism or viewpoints on public issues, the Town cannot accept political or public issue ads or ads from non-profit associations for publication.

## CITIZENS FOR PONCE INLET (C4Pi)

The Citizens for Ponce Inlet Newsletter is published quarterly throughout the year to inform the citizens and businesses of Ponce Inlet about matters which may be of interest or have an impact on them. The Newsletter is not a public forum and no editorial articles or letters will be accepted for publication.

For 35 years the Citizens for Ponce Inlet Newsletter has been distributed in paper form. Volunteers on foot and sometimes roller skates faithfully delivered the letter to the households. As the years passed, the publication was mailed directly to all residents and property owners.

In 2020, the Citizens for Ponce Inlet (CFPI) created the website [www.C4Pi.org](http://www.C4Pi.org) and posted the first digital edition of the CFPI Newsletter with the Winter 2021 issue. The new digital version is emailed to all CFPI Members and to the Town's email list.

If you would like to be placed on the email list please go to [www.C4Pi.org](http://www.C4Pi.org) and JOIN – it's free -you will automatically be enrolled to receive the Newsletter and important notifications while enjoying other C4Pi benefits.

The Citizens for Ponce Inlet is an independent organization and not part of the Town government. Read the Citizens for Ponce Inlet agreement with the Town on our website.

The Town's financial contribution relates solely to the CFPI/C4Pi Newsletter and insures all citizens in Ponce Inlet have access to this information and to the Newsletters provided on the [www.C4Pi.org](http://www.C4Pi.org) website. The newsletter does not accept paid advertisements and is distributed free of charge. We hope you find this information valuable.

# Newsletter Content and Publication Requirements

The Quarterly CFPI Newsletters are finalized around the end of December, March, June, and September. Deadlines for submitting content are as follows:

December 15th	Winter Edition
March 15th	Spring Edition
June 15th	Summer Edition
September 15th	Fall Edition

## Upload your submissions:

<https://www.c4pi.org/newsletter-content-portal/>

This portal is intended to simplify the process of submitting content for the CFPi Newsletter. Your content has two elements: text and photos (optional).

For assistance, directions to upload the information can be found on the webpage. Thank you for your continued contributions and support of the CFPI Newsletter.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about an upcoming issue of the newsletter or need assistance in submitting information via the portal.

Please email [admin@c4pi.org](mailto:admin@c4pi.org) with your contact information and questions.

Donations may be made directly on the [C4Pi.org website](http://C4Pi.org) or by mailing a check made to:

Citizens for Ponce Inlet, Inc.  
4670 S. Peninsula Drive  
Ponce Inlet, FL 32127

Please visit [www.c4pi.org](http://www.c4pi.org) for more information about our Organization.

Volunteers are always needed.

If you can help, please email:

[info@c4pi.org](mailto:info@c4pi.org) or contact C4Pi on the bottom of our Home Page.



## Executive Board:

- Lynn Albinson, President
- Elviria LaBarre, Vice-President
- Joe Cannon, Treasurer
- Kathy Cannon, Secretary

## Directors and Advisory Board:

- Lauren Albinson, Newsletter Editor
- Ed Davis
- Judy DiCarlo
- Sue Fillion
- Don Hampton
- David Miller
- Pat Morris
- Mark Oebbecke
- Pamela Schafer
- Jane White



Citizens for Ponce Inlet, Inc. has achieved 501(c)(3) status, marking a significant milestone in its more than 40-year history as an entirely volunteer-driven organization dedicated to serving the residents of Ponce Inlet. The organization's roots trace back over four decades, when it first embarked on a mission to conduct research, investigate various issues, and propose initiatives aimed at enhancing the quality of life in Ponce Inlet. Its primary objective was to collaborate with the Town Council in shaping a community that would be a source of pride for all. Today, this dedicated organization not only persists in pursuing these objectives but also annually recognizes and celebrates exceptional citizen volunteers through its Annual Awards Banquet. Among the accolades bestowed are the Citizen of the Year Award as well as various Lifetime Achievement Awards, reserved for residents who have generously volunteered for more than two decades.

Furthermore, CFPI, Inc./C4Pi hosts an annual Election Forum, providing residents with a valuable platform to engage with town council candidates. In a recent development, the organization introduced an Election Edition Newsletter, distributed via email to its C4Pi membership. This newsletter serves as a medium for candidates to address crucial community concerns and questions. In an effort to conserve funds, offer more information, and

adapt to the digital age, CFPI established the C4Pi.org website in 2019. This platform grants members the opportunity to access a digital quarterly newsletter, along with an extensive archive spanning over 40 years of past newsletters.

In addition to the services mentioned earlier, the C4Pi.org website also provides users to access live streaming of town council meetings and other special town council meetings or conveniently view stored videos at their leisure.

For those seeking even more information and ways to get involved, the website offers an extensive assortment of resources and details. Please visit [www.C4Pi.org](http://www.C4Pi.org)

Citizens for Ponce Inlet is constantly on the lookout for dedicated volunteers who possess website and computer skills, expertise in newsletter publication, and strong writing talent. If you are interested in contributing your skills and making a positive impact, please don't hesitate to reach out. You can contact Lynn Albinson, President, at [lynn.albinson@c4pi.org](mailto:lynn.albinson@c4pi.org) to express your interest and learn more about how you can be a valuable part of this community-driven organization.

We are also grateful for any tax-deductible donations you may make to help us continue these valuable community services. Thank you.





*Join  
Today!*

## *"Our Mission is to Educate and Preserve"*

The Citizens For Ponce Inlet Website compiles and organizes all of the relevant and critical information you need into one single, easy to navigate information portal. It's like having the entire town at your fingertips. With just 1-2 clicks on your smartphone or desktop, you can access:

- Live Streaming
- News Alerts
- Town News & Events
- Campaign Reports
- Quarterly Newsletters
- Monthly Police & Fire Activity Reports
- Agendas & Minutes for All Meetings
- Extensive Library of Past Meetings
- Participate in our Surveys

Ponce Inlet's most informed citizens turn to C4Pi.org to obtain the information they need to be informed on town business, town events and town department activity.

**Membership is free. Get informed. Join today.**

***Promoting and Improving the Quality of Life in the Town of Ponce Inlet***

**info@C4Pi.org**

**www.C4Pi.org**